

# Overseas Press Club Bulletin

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## John Guenther to Edit Dateline '81



L. to R.: Henry Gellermann, John Guenther, Nat Goldstein

### OPCers Will Tell How World Reacts To Reagan Takeover

**John Guenther**, a distinguished former editor of this *Bulletin*, as well as a former editor and writer for the Scripps-Howard newspapers, the United Press and *Newsweek* Magazine, is editor of this year's *Dateline*, the club's annual magazine.

His appointment was announced by President **Henry Gellermann**, who has assumed the responsibility of publisher of *Dateline*. Mr. Gellermann also announced the appointment of **Nat Goldstein** as advertising director.

"We are going to produce *Dateline* ourselves this year," Mr. Gellermann said, "departing from the practice of having *Dateline* produced for us by a different major publication each year. We got some excellent *Datelines* that way, of course. But with the talent we have in our own membership all over the world, there is no reason why we cannot — and every reason why we should — produce our own magazine ourselves."

Mr. Guenther started immediately to marshal the club's news correspondent members all over the world to produce a comprehensive and informed "insider" report on how the rest of the world views the new Reagan Washington.

The report will be published in April in *Dateline '81* and will cover the first days of the new administration.

First copies of *Dateline '81* will be distributed at the club's Annual Awards Dinner the night of April 29 in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. The dinner will honor Walter Cronkite. Eric Sevareid is scheduled to deliver the address of the evening.

OPC's coveted annual awards for distinction in the various forms of journalism — newspapers, magazines, radio, television, books, photographs and cartoons — will be announced at the dinner.

## OPC Faults State Dept. Laxity

President **Henry Gellermann** has sent a letter to the State Department strongly protesting the "Cavalier" attitude with which they are handling the disappearance of John Sullivan, a U.S. journalist on assignment in El Salvador.

Sullivan was on assignment for *Hustler* magazine and was said to be carrying credentials also from Malcolm S. Forbes of *Forbes* magazine. He checked into the Hotel Sheridan in the city of El Salvador on December 28. Four days later the hotel advised the U.S. Embassy that he was missing and that his belongings were still in his room. No clues have since been found.

Sullivan's family was told by a State Department public affairs officer, Howard Lane, that extensive interviews with sources had been conducted without result. The family was advised that the case did not enjoy "priority status" and could possibly be the result of "civilian crime." The U.S. Embassy in San Salvador recommended that the family retain a private investigator. Gellermann questioned the propriety of this advice.

He insisted on the right of any American, especially a journalist on assignment, to enjoy the full protection

of his government while abroad.

Gellermann's efforts to reach the Salvadoran Embassy in Washington were of no avail.

## Preparing for Election

**Ed Cunningham** has been appointed by President **Henry Gellermann** to be chairman of the nominating committee for the upcoming April elections.

Named to the committee were **Ruth Biemiller, Kenneth Giniger, Henry Cassidy, Elmer Lower, Herbert Kupferberg** and **Ralph Leviton**.

**Gloria Watson** was appointed chairman of judges of the election committee.

**Henry Cassidy** was appointed chairman of the review committee on associate/active memberships.

### Club Closing

In celebration of Washington's Birthday, Monday, Feb. 16, the Club's dining rooms and bar will be closed that day as well as the preceding Saturday and Sunday, three days in all.



## Kany Brings World To Our Lobby



Howard and Rita Kany in China

Howard Kany's camera has been clicking away at a good pace in recent months as he and his wife, Rita, traveled in Egypt, Pakistan, Yugoslavia, Austria, England, Guatemala and various parts of the U.S. Most recently they were in China, stopping in Peking, Tientsin, Shenyang, Harbin and Changchun.

The results of this camera-clicking are February's photographic exhibit in the club lobby. A reception will greet

the exhibit's opening at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4.

Howard, a club governor, is vice president, Broadcasting Foundation of America, and a consultant for international development for them and for the International Executive Service Corps. For many years Howard was director of news and newsfilm for CBS and news-photo editor for the AP in New York, Washington and Chicago.

## Judging Starts For OPC Awards

Less than a week remains before the February 6 deadline for entries in the OPC's 1981 Awards Competition. All preparing entries were urged by **Norman A. Schorr**, awards chairman, to act promptly in preparing their materials for consideration.

He reported that committees were being established to do the judging which is due to take place in February. The awards will be presented at the OPC's annual awards dinner, scheduled to take place Wednesday, April 29, and to honor Walter Cronkite, retiring CBS news anchorman.

Classifications in the awards competition and the chairpersons of the judging committees are as follows:

Class 1—**Hal Boyle Award** for best daily newspaper or wire service reporting from abroad, and Class 2—**Bob Considine Award** for best daily newspaper or wire service interpretation of foreign affairs: *Henry Cassidy*.

Class 3—**Robert Capa Gold Medal** for best photographic report or interpretation from abroad requiring exceptional courage and enterprise, and Class 4—**Best Photographic reporting from abroad:** *Barrett Gallagher* and *Charles Rotkin*, co-chairmen.

Class 5—**Ben Grauer Award** for best radio spot news from abroad, and Class 6—**Lowell Thomas Award** for best radio interpretation of foreign news: *Dr. Gene Sosin*.

Class 7—**Best TV spot news reporting from abroad** and Class 8—**Edward R. Murrow Award** for best TV interpretation or documentary on foreign affairs: *David Shefrin*.

Class 9—**Mary Hemingway Award** for best magazine reporting from abroad, and Class 10—**Best Magazine interpretation of foreign affairs:** *Grace Naismith*.

Class 11—**Best Cartoon on foreign affairs:** *Burne Hogarth*.

Class 12—**Best Business News reporting from abroad:** *Margaret Klein*.

Class 13—**Cornelius Ryan Award** for best book on foreign affairs: *Anita Diamant Berke*.

Class 14—**Madeline Dane Ross Award** for international reporting in any medium that demonstrates a concern for humanity: *Larry Stessin*.

Class 15—**Best Editorial or editorial series which most effectively discloses abuse of human rights and thereby lends support to the principle of human rights:** *Michael Massing*.

## Letters

This will convey to you our deepest concern over an article which appeared in the Overseas Press Club *Bulletin* dated November 1, 1980 concerning the claim put forward by Ms. Millicent Brower. Ms. Brower contends that another freelance writer appropriated material developed by her and that the allegedly plagiarized material became the basis for an article published in *The National Enquirer*.

We are investigating Ms. Brower's claim and I can assure you that it will be a thorough and fair examination. Thousands of writers throughout the United States and the world have dealt with us over many years and our reputation for honest treatment of freelance writers is not a matter which we take lightly. We were, we believe, justifiably stunned and angered when we learned that the *Bulletin* had prepared and published a story containing Ms. Brower's allegations without having a member of your staff contact us for comment. That is certainly not in keeping with the high standards we have come to expect from the *Bulletin* and we trust failure to contact us came about through some oversight.

It is our hope that you will share this letter with your many readers to assure them that we are carefully pursuing Ms. Brower's complaint in the same way we would handle a complaint from any freelance writer.

— *Thomas W. Kuncel*  
Executive Editor  
*National Enquirer*

As an American journalist for more than 20 years, an OPC member for many years, and now the UNESCO man dealing with the press in this country, I'd like to offer a few off-hand reactions to **Dwight Sargent's** story headlined "UNESCO Press Plan A No-No to IAPA" in the January OPC *Bulletin*.

First, I am disturbed that it is the same old "threat" and "conspiratory"-oriented approach. The American press in hundreds of headlines and stories has rung the alarm bell. Okay, already! The "danger," if it is indeed present, has been well-publicized, to the point, I believe, of becoming a cliché.

Second, what the article does **not** tell you, and what most of the U.S. press **didn't** report, is what actually came out of UNESCO's Belgrade meeting last fall. One very important development everyone in the media should know about was the establishment of the International Program for the Development of Communications, with the

(Continued on page 3)



U.S. joining in the consensus approval. The IPDC will serve as a clearing-house for ideas, assess the communications needs of the developing nations and seek to obtain the resources to meet these needs, both government and non-governmental, during the next two years; that is to say, until the next UNESCO General Conference. A 35-member Council will guide the work of the IPDC, among them the U.S.

Third, certain words have become alarm-ringers in this country without much being known about what they really mean. "The MacBride Report" is one of them. "The New World Information Order" is another. Thoughtful, analytical articles have been written about them by serious observers, mostly academics, but practically nothing of that sort has appeared in the popular press.

Concerning those two catch-phrases, then, at Belgrade a resolution on the MacBride Report was accepted by consensus by the representatives of 150 nations for what the Report really is: a first-step, pioneering effort to come to grips with a whole new ballgame in international communications. In this resolution, all member states took part in the discussion setting down their "considerations" on what "could be" elements of a New World Information Order, and agreed upon them. Included among them were "freedom of the press and information."

In another action on the New World Information Order, an amendment to the UNESCO work plan proposed by Venezuela, and voted by the Conference, "invites" UNESCO's Director-General to undertake studies and consultations on the principles of such an Order, including determining the possibility and desirability of a Declaration on establishing it.

What I'd like to see, and where I think the OPC can make a major contribution to this discussion, is to have a panel of qualified experts talk about "World Communications, UNESCO, Developing Nations and the U.S." There are plenty of good people available for the panel who were at Belgrade and thus know the complexities of the issue: for instance, Elie Abel, distinguished journalist who was a member of the MacBride Commission and of the U.S. delegation at Belgrade; Leonard Sussman of Freedom House; Leonard Marks of the World Press Freedom Committee; Bill Harley, consultant to the State Department, among others.

If you would like a UNESCO spokesman to participate, we'd be glad to provide one; if not, we are quite content to let these independent experts speak to the issue.

(Continued next column)

## Not An Easy Job

More evidence that journalism is a high risk profession comes from San Salvador. Susan Meiselas, a Magnum photographer on assignment for *Time* magazine, was one of three reporters injured there January 12. She sustained head and neck wounds and is now recovering at home. In 1979 she won the Robert Capa Gold Medal in the OPC awards competition for her photographic coverage for *Time* of the Nicaraguan uprising.

## New Applications

### ACTIVE RESIDENT

**Reginald Bragonier, Jr.**, Self-employed reporter-writer  
Sponsors: Roy Rowan, Susie Gharib Nazem

### ACTIVE NON-RESIDENT

**Charles L. Hebner**, Press Relations Manager, ICI Americas Inc. and State Representative, Delaware House of Representatives  
Sponsors: Ralph Leviton, Michael R. Johnson

### ACTIVE OVERSEAS

**Peter K. Wehrli**, Editor, Swiss TV DRS  
Sponsors: Erwin Leiser, Henry Gellermann

### ASSOCIATE RESIDENT

**Genther Lawrence**, Director Public Relations, Developments Corporation of Israel  
Sponsors: Sol Zatt, George Dugan

**H. Ned Shreve**, Vice President, Public Affairs, Citibank  
Sponsors: George Burns, Will Sparks

**Steven K. Walz**, Senior Editor, TV Compu-log Services  
Sponsors: Harry Rand, Jeffrey Blythe

**Hugh F. Connor**, Vice President/Director Print Media, Burson-Marsteller  
Sponsors: Henry Gellermann, Harry Rand

**John R. Williams**, Director, Corporate Information, CBS Inc.  
Sponsors: Henry Gellermann, Harry Rand

**Dorothy Wong**, Public Relations Director, Lotus Travel  
Sponsors: John Groth, William H. Pearl

### ASSOCIATE OVERSEAS

**Norman F. Dacey**, Self-employed author  
Sponsors: Eliot Sharp, Henry Gellermann  
**George Feifer**, Free lance  
Sponsors: Russell C. Tornabene, Jay Axelbank

## New Members

### ACTIVE NON-RESIDENT:

Nancy Kelly  
Major William L. Patterson

### ASSOCIATE NON-RESIDENT:

Arthur A. Daith  
Mac Seligman

### ASSOCIATE OVERSEAS:

Theophilo E. de Abreu, Jr.

Such an undertaking would seem to me a worthy challenge to the OPC.

— Joseph A. Mehan,  
Chief, Public Information  
U.S.-Canada

## Placement

*Reader's Digest* Paris office has opening for bright journalist with minimum 5 years' topflight writing-editing experience to originate article-ideas, work with writers, edit and rewrite copy aimed at broad multi-national readership. Position requires enthusiasm, imagination, adaptability, and willingness to work long hours. Candidates must be well-educated, familiar with Europe, fluent in French, with knowledge of German, Italian or other European languages. Send detailed resume to European office, *Reader's Digest*, 216 Boulevard Saint Germain - 75007, Paris, France.

Placement is a free service for OPC members for positions wanted or offered. Please address Helen Alpert, OPC.

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## OPC BULLETIN

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Irvin S. Taubkin, Editor; Helen Alpert, George E. Burns, Blythe Foote Finke, Rosalind Moore, Charles J. Schreiber, associate editors.



## Who, What, Where

By BLYTHE FOOTE FINKE

Inauguration Day, January 20, 1981, meant something special to OPCer Colonel **Barney Oldfield** of Litton Industries. He wrote four political gags a day for seven months during the campaign for Ronald Reagan. "It shows what a strong candidate he was," Barney writes. "He won anyway!" This has been a long-standing tie — dating from Barney's 1946-47 time in the Warner Brothers Studio publicity department. One of his responsibilities was Screen Star Ronald Reagan.

It is Barney's year. In March 1981 a book entitled "How I Made the Sale Which Did the Most for Me" will be launched at the Waldorf Astoria with all byliners at the head table. He is one of them along with William E. Simon, Gene Autry, Muhammad Ali, etc. Also his last year's novel "Operation Narcissus" has raised more than \$17,000 for the American Research and Medical Services Foundation.

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With Afghanistan at the top of the media priorities these days the experiences of OPC member **Rhea Talley Stewart** make for fascinating reading. On her most recent visit to that country in November 1979 she was the last person to interview Hafizullah Amin, then President, before the Soviet invasion.

In late 1980 she met in Rome, Istanbul and Geneva with members of the family of ex-King Amanullah. Stewart wrote his biography "Fire in Afghanistan" published by Doubleday in 1973. In Rome she also met for the first time the head of the Afghan royal dynasty that followed King Amanullah. King Zahir Shah is now in exile there. He ruled Afghanistan for 40 years.

Back in the United States she, this month, was introduced to a political prisoner from Pul-i-Chakri prison outside Kabul now in exile. He had seen her picture on Kabul television interviewing Amin and wanted to meet her.

\* \* \*

"As an old Brazilian member," writes **Michael Sieniawski**, once *Christian Science Monitor* correspondent in Sao Paulo, now freelancing in New York, to tell us that **Romildo Fernandes**, head of Sao Paulo's Nacional Commucacoes, won the coveted Public Relations Premium for his 1980 golden anniversary presentation of Industrias Romi, Latin America's largest manufacturer of industrial lathes and specialized machinery.

\* \* \*

General and Mrs. **Omar Bradley** and a quartet of aides stopped over for refreshments at the club one night recently, on their way to an engagement elsewhere. Turned out that the only refreshment they wanted was one grapefruit, for the General.

\* \* \*

**Alan Priaux** smiled out at us from a full page ad in *The New York Times* the other day, doing his bit for United Cerebral Palsy along with other Hearst Corporation biggies, including *Cosmopolitan* editor Helen Gurley Brown, spouse of our own **David Brown**.

\* \* \*

Nancy and **Temple Fielding** have covered 6194 establishments in 20 countries over the past 35 years and have picked 1467 of them for inclusion in their 1981 Shopping Guide to Europe, just out from Morrow. It even lists by name an English-speaking employe at each of these outlets, along with other tips about buying abroad. One, for Switzerland: "Don't bargain — prices are rigid."

\* \* \*

**Clayton Willis** is back at his news service in Palm Beach after five months of travel in Northern Ireland, the Seychelles, Mauritius, Reunion Island, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Austria and England. Clayton is a former adviser to the Eisenhower, Johnson, Nixon and Ford administrations.

\* \* \*

John Casserly, newspaper and television foreign correspondent, has joined the editorial staff of the Arizona Republic. He began his career in 1951 with the *Milwaukee Sentinel*, then was *International News Service* Rome bureau chief, and later ABC-TV Rome bureau chief.

\* \* \*

**Elmer W. Lower**, longtime president of ABC News, is teaching at the Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University, for the winter-1981 semester. He recently had two commentaries published on the 1980 presidential election process, one in TV Guide (Jan. 17) and the other in Television Quarterly (fall-1980 issue). Lower has just returned from the University of Missouri where he teaches every autumn semester.

\* \* \*

There was much smacking of lips at the club the evening of January 5 as old members toasted new members in four different champagnes, bidding them welcome to the club. The lips knew what they were smacking about. The champagnes being tasted were the four *plus grande* of the *grande* champagnes of France. And the crisp French bread and the rich cheese that went along with the wine were no less smackworthy.

**Irving Smith Kogan** arranged for the champagnes, but **Robert Jay Misch** provided the how and the why of champagne, starting club members, old and new alike, on the road to being connoisseurs. In the words of another expert, Bob Misch has "done more for wine knowledge than anyone else in America."

Word now is that he continues to do so, with a number of lecture programs that are calculated, to quote another expert, "to make a buff out of the beginner and a connoisseur out of the somewhat knowledgeable."

To quote a member who was trying to leave the party that night, "They're gonna turn this into the Overseas Wine-Press Club if they keep this up." To which his friend replied, "So who's complaining?"

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